# A ſhorte and faithfull Inſtruction, gathered out of holy ſcripture, compoſed in Queſtions and Anſweres, for the edifieng and comfort of the ſimple Chriſtians, whyche intende worthily to receyue the holye Supper of the Lorde.

1. Corinth. 11.

VVho ſoeuer ſhall eate of this bread, and drinke of the cup of the Lorde vnworthily, ſhalbe gylty of the body and bloudde of the Lorde.

2. Corinth. 4.

I beleue, and therfore I ſpeake.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

## ¶ To the faithfull cõgregation. Grace and peace frome God the Father, and frome oure Lorde IESVS CHRIST.

FOrasmuch as our Lorde Jeſus Chriſt hath commanded al true Chriſtians to obſerue hold and vſe his holy Supper in remembrance of hym tyll his comyng again: & ſeyng alſo that al

 they

they whiche accordynge to the rule of holy scripture, neither do examyn, trye, nor proue theim selues rightely before the receyt of the laide holy supper, neither yet do truly iudge and discerne the differēce of it from other prophane bankettes, are gylty of the body and blood of Christ: And seing also that no man can accordingely other trye and proue hymselfe, or ryghtly iudge & discerne ỹ body of the Lorde, except he first know and vnderstande the foūdacion & groūd of the christen fayth and religion: Therfore haue we (as they which are careful for the helth of your soules) wrytte this breefe & shorte sūmary of the moste nedefull and principal partes of the christen religion, to your most profitable instruction & comfort, to thentent that no mā other through ignorance shulde despise that cōmandement of Christ, or els through rough stubbernes shoulde other not regard the receyt of that holy Supper, or in any wyse slanderously or vnworthily abuse it. In cōsideration wherof, we humbly beseche you of charitie and for Christ Jesus sake, that you wyl thankfully take this my labour, and wyth all diligēce imbrace it, to ỹ furtheraūce of your own saluacio, and our ioye in the daye of the Lorde.

Que-

Questi. Welbeloued brother or sister N. seing that thou intēdest to receaue with vs the holy Supper of the Lorde Jesus Christe, so before all thynges (yf otherwise thou wilt not make thy selfe giltie of his body and blonde) thou muste be a christian, therfore we aske of thee: Wherby knowest thou, that thou art a Christian.

Answere. Two maner of waies: First bicause the holy ghost by the wytnes of faith certifieth me in myne herte, & sealeth my conscience, that I am the chyld of god, alonly through the merite of Jesus Christ. Secondarily, bicause that I through the same spirite, as touchynge the inwarde man) am moued wyllyngly and gladdely to the due obedience of goddes holy commandementes. Rom. 8. 2. Cor. 1.

Questiō. Which ar the cōmandemēts?

Answere. Those which God himself cōmāded, & Moses in the .xx. chap. of Exo. wrote, in maner and forme folowyng.

## The ten cōmandementes.

I Am the Lorde thy god, which brought the out of the lande of Egypt out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt haue none other goddes but me. 1

Thou shalt not make vnto thy self any
grauen ymage, nor the likenesse of any
thyng that is in heauen aboue, or in the
earth beneth, or in the water vnder the
earth, thou shalt not bow downe to thē
nor worship them: For I the Lorde thy
God am a gelouse God, and visit the sin
nes of the fathers vpon the childzen vn
to the thirde & fourth generation of thē
that hate me, & shewe mercy vnto thou
sandes in them that loue me, and kepe
my commaundementes.

3. Thou shalt not take the name of the
Lorde thy god in vayne. For the Lorde
will not hold hym gyltlesse that taketh
hys name in vayne.

4. Remēber that thou kepe holy ỳ Sab-
both day. Sixe dayes shalt thou labour,
and do all that thou haste to do, but the
seuenth daye is the sabboth of the Lord
thi God. In it thou shalt do no manerof
worke, thou and thy sonne, & thy daugh
ter, thy man seruant, and thy maid ser
uant, thy cattell, and the straūger that
is within thy gates, for in sixe daies the
Lorde made heauen and earth, the Sea
and all that in them is, and rested the se
uenth daye. Wherfore the Lord blessed
the seuenth daye, and halowed it.

5. Honour thy father & thy mother that
thy dayes maye be longe in the lande,
which

whych the Lord thy GOD gyueth thee.
¶ Thou shalte doo no murther. 6.
¶ Thou shalte not commyt adultery. 7.
¶ Thou shalte not steale. 8.
¶ Thou shalt not beare false wytnesse agaynst thy neighbour. 9.
¶ Thou shalt not couete thy neighbors house, thou shalt not couete thy neighbours wyfe, nor his seruaunt, nor his mayde, nor his Oxe, nor his asse, nor any thyng that is his. 10.

Question. Howe are these commaundementes deuyded?

Answere. Into two tables, whereof the fyrst pertaynethe to God, and the other to oure neyghbour. Ex. 25. 34. Deute. 9.

Questi. What learnest thou in the foure first cõmaundementes whyche belong alonly vnto God?

Answere. That I shal set my fayth, trust and confidẽce vpon no creature, but vpon God alone. And hym, not with ymage seruice, or any other coũterfayt worshipping, but alone in spirite and truth shall worship and serue, & shall also daily prayse hys holy name, and exercise my selfe diligently not only in hearing hys holye worde, but also in the vse of his Sacramentes. Esa. 44. Psal. 115. Mat. xv. Exod. 25. 1. Reg. xv. Iohn. 4. Esa. 48. Ephe. 5. Luce. 8. 10.

Questi. What learnest thou in the fyr cõmaundementes folowynge, whych be-

longe to our neyghbour?

Answer. That I shalbe obedient vnto them, who god hath set ouer me, & that I shall by no maner of meanes be hurt full to my neighbour in his body, wife, family, goodes, honour, name, fame, or estimatiō, no not so muche as with any euil lust, but in al godly and honest thinges shalbe to hym an help & furtherāce.

Question. Haste thou these cōmandemētes in all pointes so perfectely fulfilled, y thou art able to stād in the iudgemēt?

Answer. Oh nay: for seyng that the law is spiritual, and I am carnal, I can not but confesse my self in many thyngs against that holy lawe to haue offended, not only in leauing vndone that that is therin commanded, but also in doynge that, that is therin forbydden.

Quest. Seyng that man bicause of one synne by the sentence of the law is condemned & excluded out of the kyngdom of God, howe shalt thou then be saued, for as muche as in many thynges thou haste synned, and bycause that no man can entre into Gods kyngdome vnlesse he be cleane from all synne?

Ans. My saluation dependeth onely of mere mercy and grace thorough Iesus Christ, which without al my deseruing hath taken and accepted me for one of

his

his membres, and also hath made me partetaker of all his gracious merites and good dedes, bycause with a repentant hert I belue vndoubtedly to be saued by hym.

Question. Seing the ground of thy faith is set alone vpon Jesus Christe, wylte thou shortly declare what thou beleuest on CHRIST?

Answer. I beleue that Jesus Christ in one person is very God of God: & very mā of mā: & also that he is my only mediatour, aduocate, intercessour, hyghe Priest, kynge, and Prophete, whiche hath taken vpon hym my curse and condemnation, and hath to me agayne restored frely his holynes and righteousnes, as it is moste brefely comprysed in the chiefe articles of our christen fayth.

Rom. 1. 9. Iohn. 1 3. 1. Iohn. 2. 1. Tim. 2. Heb 7. 8. Deute 18. Actu. 37. Gala. 3. Roma. 8.

Question. Which ar the chief articles of the christen faith?

Answere. I beleue in God the Father almighty, maker of heauen and earth. &c.

Question. What vnderstandest thou by that worde I beleue) as thou confessest, sayeng: I beleue in God the Father: I beleue in God the Sonne: I beleue in God the holy ghoste.

Answere. I meane this, that I set all my fayth, truste, and confidence in god the Father, who hath made me and all the

wozlde: In God the Sonne, who hath redemed me and all mankynde: and in God the holy ghoſt, who ſanctifieth me and all the choſen people of God.

Queſtion. Beleueſt thou thā, that God the Father, the Sonne, and the holye Ghoſt are one true God?

Anſvver. Yea moſt ſurely, foꝛ ſo all the holy ſcripture techeth vs, and therof ar we admoniſhed in our baptiſm, wherin we ar baptiſed in ẏ name of the father, and of the ſonne, and of the holy ghoſt.

Queſtion. Hath Chꝛiſt oꝛdened no ſure outward exerciſes and certain markes and tokens, wherby his congregation may be knowen and diſcerned from all other churches and ſectes?

Anſvver. Yes doutles, & that bycauſe of our weakenes, that we thoꝛow them may be exerciſed and ſtrengthened in a ſure faith, & alſo by the due adminiſtration of them may ſo much the better be ſtirred vp to the due obediēce of the foꝛſayd commandementes of God.

## Sure markes and tokens of Chriſtes true Churche.

Queſti. What ar ẏ ſure exerciſes, markes, & tokēs of the tru church of Chꝛiſt?

1. Anſvver. The fyꝛſte is, the ſincere pꝛeachyng of Goddes holy woꝛde.

2. The ſecond is, the right vſe of the ſacra-

cramentes instituted and ordeyned of CHRISTE.

And the third is, the christē correction of the cōgregation. In which three thinges all true christians ordinarily with al diligence and obedience ought to exercise them selfes, wherby also they are separated & disseuered frō al other sects

Question. Wherin standeth the sincere preachyng of the holy worde of God.

Answere In the right declaryng of the lawe, and of the holy gospell, whereof hitherto I haue made my confession.

Of the Sacramentes.

Question. What ar the Sacramentes?

Answere. They are holy exercises, seales & effectuall tokens of remembrance, ordeined of the Lord himself for the comfort of his congregation. In which exercises the free forgeuenes of sinnes in and by Christe Jesus, before our eies, and that moste clerely and euidently is set out and sealed. And beside that we are therby admonished of oure duetie both towardes God, & to our neighbor.

Questiō. How many suche sacramentes are there?

Answer. Two, that is: Baptisme. And the holy supper of the LORDE.

Of Baptisme.

Question. What is Baptisme?

Mar.10. Ma.xxviii. Ephe.5.

Answv. It is an holy ordinãce of Christ in the recept wherof al the membres of his congregation (in which yong children ar cõteined also) are baptised with water in the name of the Father, and of the Sonne, and of the holy ghoste.

Question. What comfort haste thou of thy Baptisme?

Ephe.2. Rom.6. Tit.3. Gal.3.

Answver. Great comfort. For albe it of nature I am vncleane, and the child of wrath, yet neuertheleſſe by faith in the promyſes of mercy, am I fully perſuaded, that thorough Jeſus Chriſt I am aſſuredly and certainly accepted and taken into the grace and fauour of God, as my body in the recept of baptiſme is beſprinkled and waſhed with water.

Question What more comforte haſte thou of baptiſme?

Answver. Forſoth this: that I maye all my lyfe long haue a continual forgeueneſſe of my ſynnes, into the which thorow the dyuels temptacion and myne owne weakenes and fraylnes I maye chance to fall: whenſoeuer I with a repentant herte in ſpirite and faythe thorow Jeſus Chriſte doo praye and aſke pardon and forgenenes of the ſame.

Question. Wherof moreouer arte thou admoniſhed in thy Baptiſme?

Answver. Truly, that I ſhall all my lyfe

long

longe forsake the dyuell, the worlde, and all the fylthy lustes of my fleshe, and with al diligence continually walke in a newe and godly lyfe.

## Of Christes holy Supper.

Question. what is the holy supper of the Lorde?

Answer. It is an holy soule banket, ordeined of IESVS CHRIST for an effectuall remembraunce of his deathe, especially that he vppon the crosse ones for all offred vp his innocent body, and there also shed his most precious bloud for the forgeuenes of synnes. Math, 26. i. Cor. x. Heb. 7. 9.

Question. wherfore intendest thou to receaue the holy Supper of our Lorde Iesus Christe?

Answer. Bycause my Lorde & Maister Iesus Christ hath willed ordeined and cõmanded it to be receyued in remembraunce of his deathe, for the syngular comfort, profit, and commoditie of me, and of all the worthy receyuers of it. Ma. xxviii. Mar. xiiij. i. Cor. xi.

Question. what profyte and comfort findest thou in the due and worthy recept therof.

Answere. Truly, in the right ministracion therof it is lyuely and effectually set out to me myserable synner, as it were before myne eyes, beaten in my remembraunce, yea wytnessed & sealed to my feble

feble conscience through the holy ghost that Christ hath ons for all ꝑ̄ ꝙ crosse made an euerlasting ful and perfite oblation and sacrifice for my synnes, and
Heb. 7.10 that I also beleuynge in hym haue thorough his deth and oblatiō ones made, forgyuenes of my sinnes with comfort and full trust of euerlastyng life as verily, truly, and certainly, as I at his table eate of the breed broke, and drinke of the cup of the LORDE, which (after the vse of holy scripture & maner of sacramentes) he calleth his body & bloud.

Question. What forme, maner, and propertie of speakyng vseth holy scripture in all Sacramentes?

Answere. Verily, that the outward partes or matter of the sacramentes in the holy scripture ar decked, beautified and adorned with the names of the mysteries and hyd thynges which they signifie: to the intent it myght be knowen, wherunto they were proprely ordeined & wherfore they shulde be receyued. As
Gen. 17. Circumcision is called the Couenaunt
Exo. xii. of God, the Paschlambe is intitled the
Tit. 3. Passeouer or Passeby: Baptisme is na
Actu. 22. med the washingaway of sinne, or bath
1. Pet iii. of the new byrth. Euē so the holy Sup-
1. Cor. x. per is called the body of CHRIST bro
and. xi. ken for vs, and his bloud shedde for vs.

Qua

Que. Is ỹ very natural body & blood of Chriſt necessarily p̄sent here vpō erth ſo ỹ in ỹ ſupper it may be eatē & dr̄ōken.

Answer. Nay truly: For firſt it wer vt terly contrary to the nature & p̄operty of al Sacramentes. Againe, the opīnō of cor̄poral p̄sence obſcureth the ſpiritual eating & dr̄incking of the body and blood of chriſt, which al the old fathers (as S. Paul saieth) did: which ſpiritual eating and dr̄incking alone in holy ſcripture is required vnto ſalnaciō. Besyde that it defaceth and in a maner blotteth out the verye true nature & p̄opertie of Chriſtes body, whych was made of the ſubſtance of the virgine Marye his mother, and not of breade. Further it maketh the p̄ieſtly office of Chriſt of none effect, or at the leaſt vnſufficient. For in that office he once for al offred his body and ſhed hys bluo for our redemption, and doth not yet dayly ſeperat & deuide his bloud frō his glorified body againe Moreouer, thys cor̄poral p̄sence is cō trarye to the article of hys aſcencion, & our continuall lokyng for hys returne at the laſte day. Finally, this fond ymaginaciou of Chriſts bodely p̄sence ſeteth out & deſcribeth to vs ſuch a Chriſt as in the writings of the p̄ophetes and apoſtles is vtterly vnknowen,

1. Syx reaſōs againſt the corporall preſence of Chriſte in the ſupper.

1. Cor. x.

2

3

4

5

Queſtion

Question. Wherof els art thou admonished in the vse of Christes holy Supper

Answere. Truly, that I wt al mine hearte shal thanke my Lorde Jesus Christ for this great benefite of my redemption. And thys thankefulnesse by hys gracious fauoure, with pacience lone, mortification of carnal desyres, soberneſſe of life and conuersacion, and finally with a continual and fre confession of his holy name, shal I signifye and declare vnto my lyues ende.

¶ Of Christen correction.

Question. Where is the correction of the Churche commaunded of Christ?

Answere. Verely in the. 18. cha. of S. Mat. gospel vnder these wordes: yf thi brother treſpase against the, Go & tel hi his faut betwene him and the alone. Yf he heare thee, thou hast won thy brother. But yf he heare the not, then take yet wyth the one or two, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses euery matter may be stablyshed. Yf he here not them: tel it vnto the congregatiō. Yf he heare not the cōgregacion, let him be vnto the as an heathen man, & as a publican. Verily I say vntó you: what so euer ye bind on earth shalbe bounde in heauen: and whatsoeuer ye lose on earth, shalbe loſed in heauen. Thys ordinance of christ S. Paul also

Ma. xviii.

also cõfirmeth & putteth in vse as appe-
reth in the.i.epistle vnto the Corinthes i. Cor 5.
Question. What is the correction of ỹ
Churche of Christ?
Answere. It is an ordinaunce of Christ Math.18.
through which euery christian is bõd Luke 17.
orderly after the word of God louingly Rom.15.
to admonisshe his brother of his faute: & Colle.3.
also again willingly & gladly to receiue Heb.3.12.
and take admonicio, warnyng & chari- Iaco.5.
table rebukes for the same. Or els yf he 1.Cor.5.
refuse and vtterly despise all such godly 1Thes.5.
admonicios and warnynges (so that ac
cordynge vnto Christes rule they be or
derly done) then by the authority of god
des word he ought to be excõmunicate
& put out of the cõgregatiõ, & deliuered
to sathan: and as an heathen & publicã
to be estemed, reputed & takẽ, vnto such
a time he returne, amẽd, & recõcile him
selfe agayne vnto the congregation.
Question. Seing that subtill sathã seketh 1.Petri.5.
al ways & meanes to pluck away man
from his fayth and obedience to Jesus
christ, how shalt thou thã be able to stãd
in thy profession?
Answe. By the only grace of God & such Mar.13.
meanes as he hath ordeined, which are Ephe.6.
watchyng, resistinge, and prayeng. &c. Iaco.4.
Question. To whom prayst thou, & how?
Answer. To God onely through Jesus
Christe

Chryst, in spirite and truthe.

Question. For what thing prayst thou?

Answere. I praye fyrst for those thynges that ar to the preferrement and aduancement of goddes glory & our owne soules health. And ther for such thinges as are profytable and necessary for the sustenyng of this life, but so as they agre and stand with the will and pleasure of god: And finally that it may please god to delyuer and defende vs from al thynges that are to the hinderaūce of his glory & to the decay of the health of our soules. Al whych thinges are cōprised in ỳ praier which chryst taught his disciples which is: Our father whiche art in. &c.

Questi. Wilt thou accordyng to this cōfessiō of thy faith, liue? And with al diligēce obserue the discipline of ỳ churche and bond of charitie: & also (al enuy malice & hatred of herte set a part) wilte ỳ reconcile thy selfe, & be at one with al mē with whome thou art at variaunce?

Answe. Yea by the grace of God, so far as is possible to thys myne infirmity & weaknes, ỳ which I shal ernestly pray vnto God to strengthen me daily more and more. Amen.

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